

## OVERVIEW OF OPPORTUNITIES

This Transmission Forecast Statement identifies the opportunities for new generation, demand and interconnection at various parts of the grid. “Opportunity” relates to the capacity available for greater use of the grid without the need for reinforcements beyond those already planned.

Where grid capability is described as limited, this means that reinforcement of the grid will be necessary in order to facilitate new connections. It should not be interpreted as meaning that generation, demand or interconnection projects may not be connected. The Transmission System Operator (TSO) will initiate such reinforcement projects as necessary once a customer has signed a connection agreement.

Over the period covered by this statement, opportunities for the connection of a generator in excess of 400 MW in size were shown to exist at Gorman in Co. Meath, Flagford in Co. Roscommon and in Louth. Opportunities for the connection of smaller scale generation exist in most parts of the country, although the capability of the grid to accommodate new generation in the south-west is limited. It should be noted that if new generators sign agreements for connection in an area that is shown to have opportunity e.g., the north-east, they will use up some or perhaps all of the available capacity in that area. Connection applications totalling 1,316 MW of wind generation are currently being processed by the TSO under the Commission for Energy Regulation’s “Gate 2” direction on wind farm connections.

There will be significant opportunities for demand in excess of forecast levels in most parts of the country throughout the period covered by this statement.

Analysis of the capability of the grid to accommodate further interconnection with Great Britain i.e., additional to that planned, or new interconnection with continental Europe suggests that Gorman 220 kV station in Co. Meath would be the most favourable connection point, followed by Louth.

Those who are considering applying for a connection to the national grid should contact the TSO at [info@eirgrid.com](mailto:info@eirgrid.com) for further information.